

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	CSHB 267(RES)
Fiscal Note Number:	5
(S) Publish Date:	4/24/2018

Identifier: CSHB267(RES)-DFG-DSF-04-23-18
Title: RELEASE HUNTING/FISHING RECORDS TO
MUNI
Sponsor: EDGMON
Requester: House Finance Committee

Department: Department of Fish and Game
Appropriation: Sport Fisheries
Allocation: Sport Fisheries
OMB Component Number: 464

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2019 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Personal Services	9.1						
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	6.1						
1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	3.0						
Total	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

1005 GF/Prgm (DGF)	3.0						
1250 UGF Rev (UGF)	6.1						
Total	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? No
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? n/a

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Updated for House Resources Committee Substitute.

Prepared By: Tom Brookover, Director
Division: Sport Fish Division
Approved By: Carol Petrabor, Director
Agency: Administrative Services

Phone: (907)267-2150
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Date: 04/23/18

REPORTED OUT OF
SFC 04/23/2018

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
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Analysis

Sport fishing business owners and guides are required by statute and regulation to license and register, respectively, with the department before conducting sport fishing or guide services. Further, sport fishing guides are required by regulation to obtain and complete a logbook. Logbooks require information including: Division of Motor Vehicles boat registration or United States Coast Guard documentation number for vessels used to provide guide services; locations where guide services were provided; effort, catch, and harvest by clients, owners, or employees of the sport fishing business or guide, and; other information the department requires. The sport fishing business owner is responsible for reporting logbook information and returning logbooks completed by the guide it employs to the department as specified in the logbook. The purpose of the logbook program is to provide information necessary for the management or conservation of the fishery resource or regulation of the guide industry.

Under Alaska Statutes, logbook information is confidential and may not be released by the department. This bill would require the release of certain records related to big game hunters, guided hunts, and guided sport fishing activities to municipalities for verification of taxes payable.

Assumptions: any of the existing municipalities in Alaska may request records or reports of guided fishing activities filed by a licensed sport fish guide with the Division of Sport Fish to verify taxes payable to the municipality; the department is aware of three municipalities that currently tax sport fishing guide activities in some way; and municipalities that request records or reports for the purposes of this bill will submit requests on an annual basis.

Limitations: it is not clear what records and/or reports are expected to be released to municipalities. Although the bill language specifies guided fishing activities, AS 16.05.815(a) refers to reports concerning landings of fish and other parameters commonly associated with a commercial, as opposed to a guided sport, fishery; and guided fishing activity data is collected at a certain geographic scale using geographic areas specified by the division for fishery management purposes. In most cases, the scale and area currently reported to the department for biological management purposes is incongruent with municipal boundaries and areas.

Sustainability of Information Being Requested: Authorities described under AS 16.40 will sunset 12/31/2018. Revenues from fees collected from businesses and guides under the salt water sport fishing operator and guide provisions in that statute currently fund a large portion of the guide licensing and reporting program, which generates the information requested in this bill by municipalities for compliance verification. Loss of the fee revenues after the sunset date will leave the program with a large shortfall in funding. Without funding, the reporting program will be reduced or eliminated.

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

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BILL NO. CSHB 267 (RES)

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Calculation Method: One-time and recurring costs are estimated to account for requests from three municipalities in Alaska. One-time costs are identified for FY19 and provide for initial work with each known municipality leveeing taxes to ascertain the types of information needed, reconcile municipal boundaries with the geographic reporting areas, and configure databases to provide the requested data. One-time costs identified for initial setup in FY19 for 3 municipalities are estimated at \$6.1. This includes salary for one Program Coordinator II (\$13.0/month) for 2 weeks.

(\$13.1 monthly salary divided by 4.3 weeks per month, multiplied by 2 weeks setup time)
 $(\$13.1/4.3)*2 = \6.1

In addition to the initial setup costs, the department would collect an annual fee of \$1.0 from entities requesting these records. Note that we only assumed the 3 known taxing entities in our calculations which may be significantly deficient. The anticipated fee would generate \$3.0 in revenue that would be used to offset salary time to process, consult and deliver the final data request to the requesting municipalities.

In addition, the personal services identified in this fiscal note would not qualify for use of Fish and Game funds which is currently used to fund that position; thus the bill would require general fund and/or general fund program receipts with the ability to carry forward to cover unanticipated expenditures. Further, the expenditures related to processing these record requests must equal the revenues collected in fees for this activity.

If the number of municipalities requesting information from the division increases to a level that causes severe impacts to the existing workload of the Program Coordinator, then an additional PCN will be needed to meet the additional demand while still processing ongoing workloads to meet annual deadlines in other programs already assigned.